



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.3081

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Michio SEKI *et al.*

Application No.: 10/602,678

Filed: June 25, 2003

For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS,  
NETWORK SYSTEM, RELAY  
APPARATUS, AND STATUS  
CONTROL METHOD

) Group Art Unit: 2614

) Examiner: Not assigned

) Confirmation No.: 1969

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants attach a copy of the listed document. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in the attached Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

within three months of the mailing date of the Japanese Office Action. A copy of the Japanese Patent Office Action is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the attached Japanese Patent Office Action is attached. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusion set forth in the Japanese Patent Office Action.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

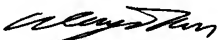
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 18, 2005

By:   
Wenye Tan  
Reg. No. 55,662

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/602,678
Filing Date	June 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michio SEKI
Art Unit	2614
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	04329.3286

Sheet 1 04329.3081 1

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>9</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP-2001-309455	11-02-2001			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>9</sup>
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by Japanese Patent Office on March 8, 2005, in Japanese Application No. 2002-188444	Yes

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.